

CONGRATULATING KING'S DAUGHTERS HEART AND VASCULAR CENTER

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I congratulate King's Daughters Medical Center, KDMC, of Ashland, Ky. KDMC was recently selected as an award winner in the 2006 Solucient 100 Top Hospitals: Cardiovascular Benchmarks for Success Study, 8th Edition.

Solucient developed the 100 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals study to identify hospitals that are the highest performers in the Nation in cardiovascular service, and to set performance targets for improving clinical outcomes and management practices. To qualify, hospitals must achieve high scores across eight equally weighted performance criteria that reflect clinical processes and outcomes, volume, efficiency and cost for four treatment areas: acute myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure, coronary artery bypass graft and percutaneous coronary intervention.

In addition to this prestigious award, KDMC also received a five-star rating for cardiothoracic surgery. This placed KDMC in the top 5 percent in the Nation and No. 1 in Kentucky for cardiac surgery.

I congratulate KDMC on this outstanding achievement. Their service to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky is an inspiration to all. I look forward to all that KDMC accomplishes in the future.●

RECOGNIZING SAVE THE CHILDREN USA

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I recognize Save the Children USA's 75th anniversary. I am proud to say that Save the Children work began in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Today, Save the Children continues to work in 33 different sites in Kentucky rural communities, serving approximately 3,000 children in need.

This program was founded on January 7, 1932, in response to the needs of children and families struggling to survive the Great Depression in the Appalachian mountain region of Harlan County, KY. In 1938 Save the Children launched a Hot School Lunch program for undernourished children in nine States. Later it became one of the models for the national school lunch program.

Today, the organization's U.S. programs concentrate on literacy and nutrition programs benefiting over 20,000 children in areas of constant rural poverty in 12 States. Internationally, Save the Children works in more than 50 developing countries helping children by providing food, medical services and shelter to those in need.

Once again I congratulate Save the Children USA on their 75th anniversary. I appreciate the dedication of Save the Children to this worthy cause and their hard work is greatly affecting the lives of many people. Everyone

involved in this organization is truly an inspiration to all.●

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN EDUARDO REYES

• Mrs. DOLE. Mr. President, today I wish to honor CPT Eduardo Reyes, a retired pilot who flew for Philippine Airlines.

On December 11, 1994, Captain Reyes was piloting Philippine Airlines flight 434, from Manila to Tokyo, when a bomb planted by now-convicted terrorist Ramzi Yousef was detonated on board the aircraft. The blast immediately killed 1 Japanese businessman and injured 10 others. It also caused the plane's controls to stop functioning normally, putting the lives of everybody aboard the plane at risk.

In this most trying of situations, Captain Reyes and his crew rose to the challenge. Controlling the altitude of the plane via the throttle—which I understand is an extremely difficult thing to do—Captain Reyes kept the plane in the air for nearly an hour before making an emergency landing in Okinawa. His courageous actions and outstanding skill as a pilot helped avert a great disaster and save the lives of 272 passengers and 20 crew members.

Captain Reyes later had the courage to testify on behalf of the United States against al-Qaida master bomber Ramzi Yousef. In 1994, Yousef was working on a master plan, often called the Bojinka Plot, to bomb 12 U.S. passenger jets over the Pacific Ocean in a 2-day period, killing over 4000 civilians. The bombing of Captain Reyes' plane was a test run for that plan. And, as many here remember, Yousef was also responsible for the bombing of the World Trade Center in 1993. Captain Reyes' testimony at Ramzi Yousef's 1996 trial helped to put one of the world's most dangerous terrorists in prison for life.

For his valor and clear thinking on December 11, 1994, and for his contribution to the fight against terrorism by testifying against Ramzi Yousef, I would like to commend Captain Reyes. The United States and countries throughout the world are indebted to him for these brave actions.●

HONORING ANTONIO PIERRO

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, last week our country and the State of Massachusetts lost a favorite son. Antonio Pierro passed away last week at the age of 110. Today would have been his 111th birthday.

The Guinness World Records has said that Pierro was America's oldest war veteran, having served in World War I, and the oldest American man in its records. Only seven veterans of WWI are still known to be alive.

Pierro was born in Italy in 1896 and lived there before he immigrated to the United States in 1914. Only 3 short years later, he was drafted into the Army and sent to France to fight in

WWI. Pierro was given the opportunity to fight for the Italians, an ally of the United States, but instead chose to fight for his new homeland.

Once his service was completed he followed his father and brothers back to Swampscott, MA and spent the rest of his life as a resident of the Bay State. His love for America was evident to all of those he met. His nephew, Richard Pierro said, "When he left Italy, he left for good. This was the promised land. He didn't want to go back, even if you offered him free passage."

Pierro worked at a shoe plant, managed a body shop and eventually spent 17 years at General Electric in Lynn until his retirement, 46 years ago, in 1961. His family attributes his longevity to his strict adherence to three square meals a day and lots of sleep. Pierro lived by simple rules of life and remained dedicated to leading a simple, good life until the day he passed. His is remembered as having a "twinkle in his eye" and a gratitude for all that life had offered him. He lived in three different centuries, and he lived well.

I ask that we remember him today as a veteran, a true American, and a testament to life's many gifts and surprises. Our country is honored by his service but also thankful for the lessons his life offers about patriotism, family, and the simple pleasures of life.●

CONGRATULATING THE MISS SELMA'S SHOOTERS

• Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, it is with the greatest pleasure that today I honor the sixth grade girls' basketball team of Miss Selma's school in Little Rock, AR, for finishing in first place of the regular basketball season.

This is a team that is comprised of eight basketball players who have played together since the third grade. The talented members of the team are: Sam Anderson, Elizabeth Campbell, Cassidy Johnson, Paige Logsdon, Audrey Peters, Laura Russell, Gracie Sloan, and Peyton Watts.

While all the teams in the league are worthy of mention, the regular season came down to one game, a match-up with the Little Rock Christian team. Little Rock Christian has a great team. In fact, the Little Rock Christian team has a dynasty and they had never been beaten in 4 years of play and had won all 70 games they had ever played. The game showcased great athleticism displayed by both teams. The battle was intense for the duration of the contest. The difference in the game was decided by a free throw made in the last few seconds, which gave a 16 to 15 victory to the Miss Selma's Shooters. It was a classic and will be remembered for many years by all that witnessed it and both teams deserve credit for the manner and intensity for which they competed.

I would like my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Miss Selma's